



## Richard Taylor:

Richard has more than thirty-five years of experience in civil engineering materials, specializing in bitumen and asphalt materials. Over the last decade he has been responsible for Shell's bitumen and asphalt research & development program and has developed, patented and launched many novel technologies for asphalt pavements during that period.

Richard is an Honorary Professor at the University of Nottingham School of Civil Engineering, and a Fellow of The Institute of Asphalt Technology.

Richard has developed a significant knowledge of sustainable development, carbon accounting and circular economy. He was the chair of Eurobitume's Sustainability Steering Group from 2022-2024, and a member of the Lifecycle and EPD taskforces in Eurobitume and a member of the recent asphalt binder EPD task force of the Asphalt Institute. Richard is a Fellow of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment and a Chartered Environmentalist (Society for the Environment).



## Chait Bhat:

Chait graduated with a Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental engineering from Michigan Technological University in Fall 2020 and is also a certified Life Cycle Assessment Practitioner by the American Center for Life Cycle Assessment. Chait is the Head of Sustainability Engineering and Research at the Asphalt Institute (AI).

As part of his work with the Asphalt Institute, Chait is currently chairing the Product Category Rule (PCR) committee which is drafting the rules to develop Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) for asphalt binder. Chait also leads strategic sustainability efforts under the Asphalt institute Foundation. A recent example of this work is a collaboration with Wood Mackenzie on an AIF project titled “Analyzing the Petroleum Asphalt Binder Supply-Chain under Energy Transition Scenarios”.



## John Read:

Professor John Read has worked in the Bitumen and Sulphur Industry for nearly 40 years, initially for a consultant testing house, then for an Asphalt Supplier and more recently for Shell in various roles. He retired from Shell at the end of 2024 as the Global Head of Technology for Shell Specialities (Bitumen and Sulphur) where his principle accountabilities were directly leading a team of more than 70 technical specialists to deliver R&D and technical service to customers around the world as well as serving as a member of the Leadership Teams of the Specialities (Bitumen & Sulphur) business and the Global Commercial Technology organisation (Bitumen, Sulphur, Lubricants and Aviation). John also sat as the Subject Matter Expert on Trade Controls for the Specialities business.

Following his retirement from Shell John has set up an Industrial Bitumen manufacturing business, BituCore Inc., based in Texas and his own personal consultancy, Bentley Bitumen Ltd., where he provides expert services on bitumen, asphalt and pavement engineering.

During his career John has delivered more than 150 public presentations at conferences, Industry associations, Universities and Industry training days and has published more than 100 papers, articles and technical brochures, including the internationally renowned Shell Bitumen Handbook (5th and 6th Editions).

John has also held 2 terms as the Vice-President of Eurobitume, served as Shell's Primary Director on the Asphalt Institute (US) for 20 years and sat on the Council of the Institute of Asphalt Technology in the UK.

